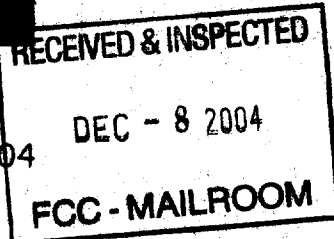




Pre-Phone Phone Cards

Pay Telephones

12/3/2004



Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

C. Markham H. Portals
If you could help us out
It would be appreciated.
Thank you
ORIGINAL

RE: Access to Unbundled Network Elements, WC Docket No. 03-225

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am the owner of Wheatel Communications in Louisville, Kentucky. I own approximately 175 payphones in and around the Louisville area that are presently being serviced by a CLEC called Navigator Telecommunications. They do an excellent and cost effective job for my company. I am extremely concerned about WC Docket No. 03-225, as noted above, which will eliminate this competitive alternative for my company.

It seems to me that this projected revision of the Unbundled Network Element will severely damage my company. This revision may force me to discontinue many payphones that are presently in service. Many of these payphones are in lower income neighborhoods and, quite frankly, are needed there by the community. This is their only means of communication. If we are forced to revert back to solely using Bell South because of this revision, I believe it would be a grave injustice to the competitive environment while significantly increasing costs to my company.

I am a staunch Republican supporter because I thought one of the things we stand for is competition. This revision will eliminate competition and force us back into the same monopolistic environment the industry has struggled

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to shed itself of. Where will the market forces come from that will control costs then? Think of what would have happened on 9/11 if there were no payphones available. Our community needs and relies on these services and we need your help in seeing payphones remain in these needed areas.

I could go on and on about this but the point I hope you will consider is to please take steps to ensure that the FCC's revised UNE rules preserve competitive local service alternatives for payphones.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jack Wheatley
Owner
Wheatel Communications

CC: Senator Mitch McConnell
Senator Jim Bunning
Representative Anne M. Northup